

SENATE BILL 2294
By Ford

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 36, relative to child custody.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 36, Chapter 6, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

Section 36-6-111. As used in this title, unless the context requires otherwise, the term "parenting time" shall have the same meaning as the term "visitation" as used in the federal Parental Kidnapping Prevention Act of 1980, Public Law 96-611, as amended, and in the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act, codified at part 2 of this chapter.

SECTION 2. As sections, parts, titles, chapters and volumes of Tennessee Code Annotated are amended, repealed, revised and replaced, the Tennessee Code commission is directed to change references to "custodial parent" in Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 36, to "primary residential parent". After the effective date of this act, any reference in title 36 to a "custodial parent" shall be deemed to be a reference to "primary residential parent".

SECTION 3. As sections, parts, titles, chapters and volumes of Tennessee Code Annotated are amended, repealed, revised and replaced, the Tennessee Code commission is directed to change references to "non-custodial parent" or "noncustodial parent" in Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 36, to "secondary residential parent". After the effective date of this act, any reference in title 36 to a "non-custodial parent" shall be deemed to be a reference to "secondary residential parent".

SECTION 4. As sections, parts, titles, chapters and volumes of Tennessee Code Annotated are amended, repealed, revised and replaced, the Tennessee Code commission is directed to change references to "child support" in Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 36, to

“financial child support”. After the effective date of this act, any reference in title 36 to a “child support” shall be deemed to be a reference to “financial child support”.

SECTION 5. As sections, parts, titles, chapters and volumes of Tennessee Code Annotated are amended, repealed, revised and replaced, the Tennessee Code commission is directed to change references to “visitation” in Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 36, to “parenting time”, except that no such changes shall be made in Sections 36-6-302, 36-6-303, 36-6-306 and 36-6-307, and title 36, chapter 1 and chapter 6, part 2. After the effective date of this act, any reference in the appropriate provisions of title 36 to “visitation” shall be deemed to be a reference to “parenting time”.

SECTION 6. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 36-6-110, is amended by deleting the language “non-custodial, biological parent” wherever it appears and by substituting the language “secondary residential, biological parent”.

SECTION 8. This act shall take effect July 1, 2004, the public welfare requiring it.